



# Rossall



## A PARENT'S GUIDE TO TASTER DAYS

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*Taster and assessment days are an integral part of the admissions process at Rossall and we recommend all UK resident pupils have at least one.*

*A Taster Day allows a child to visit the school as a pupil for a whole school day during term time, to study and play alongside the 'same year' students, who would ultimately become his or her classmates. There's probably no better way of finding out whether your child will fit in well than doing a 'trial run'. Children are able to gain an understanding of the school's ethos and routines, and, perhaps most importantly, diminish those 'first day of term' anxieties. Care is taken to find out as much as possible about a prospective pupil's strengths and interests beforehand, so that he or she can visit on a school day that is rich with the lessons and activities of particular interest to the child. Overnight taster days are also possible so that students whose families are considering boarding can experience a full 24 hour visit. You can also try out our bus service, details of which can be found [here](#).*

*Taster days do not incur a cost and all meals are included whether your child is on a day or boarding taster experience.*

Rossall has three types of taster and assessment days:

## **TASTER DAY**

Many parents prefer to have a full trial day without any assessments which is what our taster days comprise of. We usually try to ensure a pupil has a go at activities and lessons that he or she likes. We do not need a registration form and fee at this stage, but we do need a taster day medical form filled in.

We provide you with a programme of the day by way of confirmation before the day and your child will have a carefully selected buddy for that day. The day begins at 8.25am with registration so taster pupils and parents should arrive by 8.20am where you will be met by a member of the Admissions Team and following this your child's buddy in the Hall Reception area.

Your child will be given a feedback sheet to be filled in by every subject teacher they are taught by throughout the day to show them how well they are doing. Additionally, we will be ensuring your child is enjoying his or her day and gaining feedback from the teachers he or she comes into contact with. We can then give you this feedback when you come to collect your child at 4.00pm (Junior Taster day) unless you would like your child to partake in Prep time, or 5.20pm (Senior Taster day).

The next step will be to have an assessment / taster day or just return for an assessment if unable to sit the entrance exams in January or if the main Scholarship exam days have already taken place.

## **ASSESSMENT AND TASTER DAY**

As a parent, you might prefer to do the assessments and taster all in one go, especially if you reside a little further away making numerous trips more difficult. This assessment comprises of Maths, English and NVR assessments for pupils going into Year 7 only. The tests take three hours in total, and following this the candidate will have an interview with the Head and Deputy Head. For Sixth Form entry, candidates sit two papers and have four interviews with key members of staff. The rest of the day will revert to a taster day before or after these assessments have been completed depending on the scheduling. We again usually try to organise activities and lessons that your child likes. We require a registration form and fee at this stage, as well as a taster day medical form if one has not already been filled in from a previous taster day.

We provide you with a programme of the day by way of confirmation before the day and your child will have a carefully selected buddy for that day. The day begins at 8.25am with registration so taster pupils and parents should arrive by 8.20am where you will be met by a member of the Admissions Team and following this your child's buddy in the Hall Reception area.

Throughout the day, we will be ensuring your child is enjoying his or her day and gaining feedback from the teachers he or she comes into contact with. We can then give you this feedback when you come to collect your child at 5.00pm for a 5.20pm finish.

The next step will be to have a further taster day if you would like and for an offer of a place to be forthcoming should the feedback and tests come back confirming this decision. We will endeavour to offer you the day after the assessment/taster day and for you to receive this in the post the following day. Overseas pupils will receive a PDF offer additionally to a posted offer.

## **ASSESSMENT DAY**

The final taster / assessment day is purely as assessment morning or afternoon if you have had a taster day and just want your child to sit the assessments. This assessment comprises of Maths, English and NVR assessments for pupils going into Year 7 only. The tests take three hours in total, and following this the candidate will have an interview with the Head and Deputy Head. For Sixth Form entry, candidates sit two papers and have four interviews with key members of staff. We require a registration form and fee at this stage.

We will provide you with a programme of the day by way of confirmation before the day and agree whether a morning or afternoon will be preferable.

We will endeavour to offer you the day after the assessment/taster day and for you to receive this in the post the following day. Overseas pupils will receive a PDF offer additionally to a posted offer.

Although we have these guidelines above, we always ensure we are as flexible as we possibly can be to ensure your child has the best taster day experience possible.



If at any stage, you need to clarify the process or require information on what your child should bring on each of the days, please do not hesitate to contact the Admissions Team on 01253 774 273 / 774 209 or email [admissions@rossall.co.uk](mailto:admissions@rossall.co.uk)